Position: Life Support Systems Technician

Facility: Riverbanks Zoo & Garden

Location: Columbia, SC

Job Summary:
Given objectives set by the Director of Facilities Maintenance, is responsible for operating, repairing, and maintaining Riverbanks LSS equipment, structures and facilities. Will ensure a safe work environment, while understanding the operation and interpretation of technical LSS equipment. Follows USDA, DHEC, OSHA, AZA, etc. standards in all areas.

Essential Functions:
• Conducts daily rounds of all pump rooms to inspect filters, pumps, motors, compressors, lights, fans, protein fractionators, and ozone units.
• Completes regular preventative maintenance, calibration, troubleshooting, and repair to analytical instrumentation, probes, and mechanical equipment.
• Maintains a clean and safe work environment, while utilizing a wide array of carpentry, mechanical, plumbing, and dive repair tools and various types of machinery and equipment.
• Builds, repairs, remodels, and/or replaces facilities and structures in the performance of duties. Assists in building new structures and renovating and repairing existing structures. Works with contractors on designing and retrofitting spaces for LSS.
• Routinely completes water quality diagnosing procedures and checkups using an array of analytical equipment, such as spectrophotometers, digital pH meters, gauges, etc.
• Coordinates LSS and water quality parameters with the animal care staff to establish and maintain an environment conducive to the health and well-being of the animal collection. Communicates any water quality concerns to the Curator and Veterinary Staff.
• Uses and maintains a centralized laboratory to perform water quality testing for the Penguin, Sea Lion, Grizzly, Otter, and Siamang exhibits. Prepares and maintains inventory, water quality logs and reports, and maintenance reports and requests.
• Determines necessary supplies/materials needed for tasks and to maintain inventory status. Receives bids, prepares requisitions, and orders stock.
• Serves as a member of the dive staff and participates in dive operations in positions of diver, tender, and DPIC (Dive Person In-Charge), as needed. Also participates in dive emergency exercises in various exhibits.
• Comprehends and follows the Riverbanks Dive Safe Practices Manual and contributes to content for revisions/updates.
• Maintains the Waterfall Junction Splash Pad and ensures all water quality parameters are within DHEC standards. Understands basic pool filtration and equipment.
• Effectively interacts and communicates with supervisor/team, employees, volunteers, Riverbanks guests, and various external groups/individuals (e.g. sales representatives, contractors, etc.). Collaborates with the animal care and maintenance staff to ensure the integrated delivery of LSS operation/maintenance for the safety and welfare of the animal collection.
• Must be available for on-call/weekend duty and for emergencies. Works beyond a 40/hour work week, as required. Some travel required to attend meetings, professional development opportunities or conferences (e.g. AALSO and AZA).

Other Duties and Responsibilities

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:
The ideal candidate will enjoy working within a collaborative environment and be a team player. Must be organized, detail oriented, and have excellent written and verbal communication skills with a very high standard for service. Will be able to handle multiple projects simultaneously and possess thorough knowledge of current computer applications to include MS Office Suite.
**Education & Experienced Required**

Bachelor’s degree in Marine Science, Biological Sciences or a related field required. Experience with commercial LSS equipment, water quality testing equipment, and/or pool filtration and equipment preferred; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Experience working in an AZA accredited institution preferred.

**Licenses and Certifications Required**

AALSO Operator Level 1 desired. Open Water Dive Certification from a nationally accredited organization desired. Must possess or be eligible for a valid SC driver’s license.

**Physical Requirements**

Must be able to pass a dive medical evaluation and be able to lift and carry up to 70 lbs. repeatedly.

**Working Conditions**

**Salary**

$13.22/hour Benefits: Riverbanks Zoo offers a generous benefits package including medical insurance, paid holidays/vacation/sick time, state retirement plan, and more.

**Respond To**

Please submit your application via the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden website: [http://www.riverbanks.org/join-our-team/](http://www.riverbanks.org/join-our-team/)

**Closing date**

09/23/2019